LIBI

CANNOCK RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and the

SANITARY INSPECTOR

for the year

1949.

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CANNOCK RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Chairman of the Council	W. E. Hawthorne, Esq., J.P. (to 24th May, 1949).
	L. J. Wiles, Esq., J.P. (from 24th May, 1949).
Vice-Chairman..	L. J. Wiles, Esq., (to 24th May, 1949).
	W. E. Hawthorne, Esq., (from 24th May, 1949).
Chairman of the Public Health Committee.	D. White, Esq., (to 14th June, 1949).
	W. J. Garratt, Esq., (from 14th June, 1949).
Vice-Chairman of the Public Health Committee.	W. J. Garratt, Esq., (to 14th June, 1949).
	J. R. Jameson, Esq., (from 14th June, 1949).

Public Health Staff.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Duncan T. McAinsh, M.C., M.A., M.B., Ch.B.
Acting Medical Officer of Health.

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR.

G. Richardson, M.S.I.A., Certificate S.I.E.J.B.
Certificate for Meat & Food Inspector.

ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTOR.

D. W. Paul, M.S.I.A., Certificate S.I.E.J.B., A.R.SAN.I.

CLERKS.

Kathleen M. Brindley.

Brian A. Phillips.

To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee
of the Cannock Rural District Council.

I have the honour to make the Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions of the district for the year 1949. There is included a report from the Senior Sanitary Inspector.

Of the notifiable Infectious Diseases, the number of cases of Measles (388) was more than double that of the previous year. The number of new cases of Tuberculosis (34) also was an increase on the new cases for 1948. The number of cases of Diphtheria was two - the same as in the preceding year - and points to the great advantage that immunisation has given in cutting down the disease: of the two cases notified one child died; this child had not been protected by immunisation, while the other, who recovered, had been protected.

The Local Birth Rate was 18.26 per 1,000 population, as against 18.77 for 1948: in both years the local rate was a slightly higher figure than the rate for England and Wales. The Local Adjusted Death Rate was 10.32 per 1,000 population; that for 1948 was 10.66; in both cases a lower rate than for the country generally.

The Medical Research Council Laboratory at Stafford has continued to be of the greatest assistance in reporting on the specimens submitted to it, and in advising on any points arising.

There was no change in the Staff of my department during the year: I have again to record that their work has been willingly and efficiently done. My appointment of Acting Medical Officer of Health being part-time only, I have to depend greatly on their reliability.

I wish to express my thanks to you, Mr. Chairman, and to your predecessor in office for the help and support you have given me and my staff: and to the Public Health Committee for their co-operation.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

Duncan T. McAimsh.

Acting Medical Officer of Health.

1st July, 1950.

Statistics of the Area.

Area (in acres) 55,256 - unchanged.

Registrar-General's estimate of the resident population 24,430.

Number of inhabited houses according to the rate book 6452.

Rateable Value as at 31.3.50, £102,644, and a penny rate produces £390.

BIRTHS.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Total Live Births.	233.	213.	446.
Legitimate.	225.	208.	433.
Illegitimate.	8.	5.	13.
Total Stillbirths.	7.	2.	9.
Legitimate.	7.	2.	9.
Illegitimate.	-	-	-

Birth Rate per 1,000 population for the district 18.26.
Birth Rate per 1,000 population for England and Wales 16.7.

Stillbirths 19.78 per 1,000 total (live & still) Births.
Stillbirth rate .37 per 1,000 population.
Stillbirth rate England and Wales .39 per 1,000 population.

DEATHS.

Total: 252. Male 134. Female 118.

Local Adjusted Death Rate 10.32 per 1,000 population.
Death Rate for England and Wales 11.7 per 1,000 population.

The Maternal Mortality Rate for the country was .98 per 1,000 total Births (live and still).

The Maternal Mortality Rate for the district was 2.20 per 1,000 total Births (live and still).

The main causes of Death over the past three years were:-

	1949.	1948.	1947.
Diseases of Heart & Circulation....	103.	84.	76.
Respiratory Diseases	24.	33.	23.
Malignant Disease...	32.	39.	28.
Violence, including suicide...	8.	11.	9.
Malformation & Premature Births....	7.	10.	11.
Tuberculosis...	7.	10.	6.

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age:- 13.

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:-

All Infants per 1,000 live births..... 29.15

Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births..... 30.02

Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births... Nil.

Deaths from Measles (all ages)..... 1.

" " Whooping Cough (all ages)..... 2.

" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years)..... 1.

INCIDENCE OF SCARLET FEVER, DIPHTHERIA AND PNEUMONIA DURING THE TEN YEARS 1940 - 1949.

	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Pneumonia.
1940.	35.	64.	37.
1941.	67.	26.	26.
1942.	80.	40.	32.
1943.	87.	29.	41.
1944.	39.	31.	26.
1945.	28.	29.	14.
1946.	22.	11.	25.
1947.	58.	5.	24.
1948.	99.	2.	12.
1949.	65.	2.	18.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS DURING THE YEAR 1949.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases Admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Smallpox.....	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever.....	65.	30.	-
Diphtheria.....	2.	2.	1.
Puerperal Pyrexia.....	1.	1.	-
Erysipelas.....	5.	-	-
Pneumonia.....	18.	3.	8.
Meningitis.....	-	-	-
Opthalmia Neonatorum.....	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever.....	1.	1.	-
Acute Poliomyelitis.....	-	-	-
Sonne Dysentery.....	-	-	-
Whooping Cough.....	80.	3.	2.
Measles.....	388.	3.	1.

TUBERCULOSIS YEAR 1949.

	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 to 1 year.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 and upwards.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 " "	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-
10 " "	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
15 " "	5	1	1	2	-	-	-	-
20 " "	1	1	1	-	-	-	1	-
25 " "	3	5	-	-	-	2	-	1
35 " "	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 " "	5	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
55 " "	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
65 " "	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
TOTALS.	19	8	3	4	3	2	1	1

DISTRIBUTION OF INFECTIOUS CASES IN CANNOCK RURAL DISTRICT.

PARISH.	DIPHTHERIA.	SCARLET FEVER.	MEASLES.	WHOOPING COUGH.
Brewood.	-	2.	37.	-
Cheslyn Hay.	-	12.	83.	11.
Shareshill.	-	3.	13.	8.
Essington.	-	6.	57.	3.
Featherstone.	-	4.	5.	30.
Great Wyrley.	1.	21.	79.	3.
Huntington.	-	-	50.	16.
Penkridge.	-	9.	47.	-
Hatherton.	-	2.	7.	1.
Acton & Bednall.	-	1.	1.	-
Lapley.	-	-	3.	-
Saredon.	-	2.	3.	-
Dunston.	1.	3.	2.	1.
Hilton.	-	-	1.	6.
Teddesley Hay.	-	-	-	1.
TOTALS.	2.	65.	388.	80.

REGISTRAR GENERAL'S SHORT LIST OF CAUSES OF DEATH.

Causes of Death.	Total.	Males.	Females.
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers.....	-	-	-
Cerebro Spinal Fever.....	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever.....	-	-	-
Whooping Cough.....	2.	2.	-
Diphtheria.....	1.	-	1.
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System..	5.	3.	2.
Other forms of Tuberculosis.....	2.	1.	1.
Syphilitic Disease.....	1.	1.	-
Influenza.....	3.	1.	2.
Measles.....	1.	-	1.
Acute Poliomyelitis & polio-Encephalitis.....	-	-	-
Acute Infective Encephalitis.....	-	-	-
Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophogus.....	2.	2.	-
Cancer of stomach & duodenum.....	5.	2.	3.
Cancer of breast.....	2.	-	2.
Cancer of all other sites.....	23.	13.	10.
Diabetes.....	1.	-	1.
Intra-cranial vascular lesions.....	32.	14.	18.
Heart diseases.....	58.	32.	26.
Other diseases of circulatory system.....	13.	9.	4.
Bronchitis.....	12.	10.	2.
Pneumonia.....	8.	4.	4.
Other respiratory diseases.....	4.	2.	2.
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum.....	2.	2.	-
Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)....	1.	1.	-
Appendicitis.....	1.	-	1.
Other digestive diseases.....	5.	3.	2.
Nephritis.....	7.	5.	2.
Puerperal and post abortion sepsis..	-	-	-
Other maternal causes.....	1.	-	1.
Premature Birth.....	3.	1.	2.
Congenital malformations, birth injury, infantile disease.....	4.	3.	1.
Suicide.....	2.	2.	-
Road Traffic Accidents.....	3.	1.	2.
Other violent causes.....	3.	-	3.
All other causes.....	45.	20.	25.
TOTALS.	252.	134.	118.

ANTE-NATAL CLINICS AND WELFARE CLINICS IN CANNOCK RURAL DISTRICT.

These clinics are under the arrangement of Staffordshire County Council:-

Child Welfare Clinics.

Featherstone - each week.
Brewood, Coven, Cheslyn Hay, Essington, Great Wyrley, Huntington, Wheaton Aston and Penkridge - fortnightly.

Ante-Natal Clinics.

Featherstone, Great Wyrley, Penkridge and Huntington - fortnightly.

REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

Summary of Inspections and work done during 1949.

Number of houses inspected for repairs	1,513.
Re-inspections, calls etc	1,684.
Nuisances found	44.
Nuisances abated	44.
Slaughterhouse licences renewed	14.
Meat and Food inspections	92.
Cowsheds and Dairies inspected	102.
Petrol licences renewed	66.
New petrol licences granted	5.
Drainage work examined	82.
Cases of Infectious Disease investigated	74.
Cases of Infectious Disease removed	44.
Houses disinfected after Infectious cases	74.
Reports of infectious cases to M.O.H. (excluding T.B.)	561.
New licences, Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933	2.
Renewal licences, Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933	46.
Informal Notices issued (Affecting 261 houses)	159.
Statutory Notices issued	Nil.
Number of Privies or closets other than water closets converted to water closets	2.
Water Samples taken ... Chemical	37.
Bacteriological	37.
Pan Lavatories substituted for Privy Middens	14.

RURAL HOUSING SURVEY.

The Housing Survey progressed throughout the year.

Of the houses inspected during the year 4.37 % are considered to be totally unfit for habitation.

The results of the survey are as follows:-

Classification. The houses are placed in classes which correspond broadly to those provided for under the Housing Acts, namely:-

1. Satisfactory in all respects.....	239.
2. Minor Defects.....	425.
3. Repair, structural alteration or improvement.....	604.
4. Reconditioning.....	15.
5. Demolition.....	30.
Total -	1,313.

Informal Notices. Some 159 Informal Notices have been served affecting some 261 houses, these are served mainly on Class 2 and 3 houses requiring urgent repairs to be carried out, and on Class 4 and 5 only to maintain them in a weather-proof condition.

Overcrowding. The survey revealed that in 12 cases the number of people occupying a house is in excess of the permitted number. This represents 1.09 % of the houses inspected.

It should be noted that figures quoted in this report refer only to the year 1949.

SPECIAL MILK LICENCES.

	Pasteurised.	Tuberculin Tested.	Accredited.
Supplementary Milk Licences.	3.	2.	-
Dealers Licence.	-	-	-
Pasteurisers Licence.	-	-	-

These licences ceased to operate on 1st October, 1949, when the Food & Drugs Act, 1944, and the Milk and Dairies Act, 1949, came into operation.

ANTHRAX.

During the year 1 case of Anthrax and 11 suspected cases of Anthrax were reported compared with 14 in the previous year.

WATER SUPPLY.

The chief water supplies in the district remain the same and are obtained from the South Staffordshire Water Works Company and the Wolverhampton Corporation who supply Cheslyn Hay, Great Wyrley, Huntington, Hatherton, Penkridge, and the larger portions of the parishes of Brewood, Stretton, Essington, Shareshill, Featherstone, Hilton, Lapley, Wheaton Aston and Saredon. The Stafford Corporation supplies Coppenhall and Dunston.

Various samples have been taken during the year as under:-

32 Chemical and 32 Bacteriological samples were taken from private wells in the area as a check on private supplies in case of doubt or suspicion.

5 Chemical and 5 Bacteriological samples have been taken from the piped supply to Great Chatwell village. The results showed an improvement in the quality owing to improvements having previously been carried out to this supply by the owner, i.e. cleaning out of tanks, fitting of new covers to storage and collection tanks.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

During the year Public Cleansing by direct labour was continued in the parishes of Brewood, Penkridge, Stretton, Huntington, Acton Trussell, Bednall, Lapley and the villages of Weston-under-Lizard, Brineton, Blymhill, Coppenhall, Great Wyrley, Essington, Shareshill, Saredon, Hilton, Featherstone and Hatherton.

CESSPOOLS.

Owing to the delivery of an additional Cesspool Emptier an improved service was possible in the parishes of Brewood, Cheslyn Hay, Great Wyrley, Saredon, Essington, Huntington, Featherstone, Hilton, Shareshill and Hatherton.

This service was also extended to include the parish of Penkridge.

PUBLIC CLEANSING SERVICES.

Services Undertaken.

PARISH.	ASHES.	PANS.	PRIVIES.	CESSPOOLS.
Brewood.	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.
Great Wyrley.	Yes.	es.	Yes.	Yes.
Cheslyn Hay.	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.
Hatherton.	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.
Saredon.	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.
Featherstone.	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.
Stretton.	Yes.	-	-	-
Huntington.	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.
Hilton.	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.
Essington.	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.
Acton & Bednall.	Yes.	Yes.	-	-
Coppenhall.	Yes.	-	-	-
Blymhill.	Yes.	-	-	-
Teddesley.	-	-	-	-
Weston-under-Lizard.	Yes.	-	-	-
Shareshill.	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.
Penkridge.	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.
Lapley.	Yes.	Yes.	Yes.	-
Dunston.	Yes.	-	-	-

EQUIPMENT AND STAFF.

4 covered motor lorries.
2 cesspool emptiers.
1 motor van.
Staff. Normally 28.